## Message Text

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**ACTION ARA-20** 

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 IO-14 DLOS-07 COA-02 NIC-01 DRC-01 /120 W ----- 110061

R 021519Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4445

INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PFOR VE CU

SUBJECT: FOREIGN MINISTER'S REMARKS ON POSSIBLE ESTABLISHMENT OF RELATIONS WITH CUBA

1. IN RESPONSE TO JULY 1 PRESS INQUIRIES REGARDING THE LIKELIHOOD OF VENEZUELA REESTABLISHING DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH CUBA, FOREIGN MINISTER SCHACT IS REPORTED AS HAVING REPLIED AS FOLLOWS: "YOU ARE ALWAYS ASKING ME ABOUT THIS AND I ALWAYS REPLY IN THE SAME MANNER: RELATIONS WITH CUBA DEPEND UPON A SERIES OF CIRCUM-STANCES THAT ARE NOT EXCLUSIVELY DETERMINED BY VENEZUELA BUT BY OTHER COUNTRIES THAT MAY BE IN AGREEMENT WITH THE RENEWAL OF RELATIONS WITH THAT COUNTRY, BECAUSE THE POLICY OF PRESIDENT PEREZ IS NOT TO RENEW RELATIONS WITH CUBA UNILATERALLY BUT COLLECTIVELY WITH A GROUP OF COUNTRIES."

2. MEANWHILE PRESS REPORTS CITING AN "OFFICIAL" SOURCE CLAIM THAT FOREIGN MINISTER SCHACHT WILL DISCUSS THE POSSIBLE JOINT RECOGNITION OF CUBA BY VENEZUELA AND COLOMBIA WITH COLOMBIAN FOREIGN MINISTER ALFREDO VASQUEZ CARRIZOSA WHEN THE LATTER ARRIVES IN CARACAS JULY 2. THE SAME "OFFICIAL" SOURCE CLAIMS THAT THE JOINT VENEZUELAN/COLOMBIAN ANNOUNCEMENT WILL OCCUR AUGUST 7 SHORTLY AFTER THE INAUGURATION OF COLOMBIAN PRESIDENT-ELECT LOPEZ MICHELSEN.

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3. MEANWHILE THE LATIN AMERICAN DELEGATIONS ATTENDING THE UN CONFERENCE ON THE LAW OF THE SEA HAVE REPORTEDLY AGREED, ON THE BASIS OF A MAJORITY VOTE OF THE PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES, TO INCLUDE CUBA IN THE LATIN AMERICAN CAUCUS AT THE CONFERENCE. MCCLINTOCK

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